

## **RECREATION AND TRAILS SECTION**

### **Forest, Mineral and Fire Management**

#### **Statutory Authority in PA 451 of 1994**

- Part 711 – Recreation Improvement Fund
- Part 721 – Michigan Trailways
- Part 723 - Trails
- Part 811 – Off-Road Recreation Vehicles
- Part 821 - Snowmobiles
- Part 831 – State Forest Recreation

There are statutory provisions for providing and planning development and maintenance of recreation facilities within the state and on state forest lands. These provisions are carried out through specific planning documents that guide the statewide recreation and trails programs.

There are also annual appropriations for grant funds to be allocated out to trail sponsors, the department and local units of government. These funds are dispersed through a process of grant project application and review. Applications review is conducted by department staff and public advisory groups to the programs, listed below.

Implementation of any trail grant funded development project on state forest lands goes through a peer division review during a trail proposal process.

Procedures for soliciting recreation and trail development and acquisitions are currently being reviewed to achieve the goal of establishing a longer range view of recreation planning needs and to more strategically plan for prioritizing needs and funding allocations several years in advance.

#### **Planning Documents**

- Statewide Trails Initiative – March 1992 – *Provides for statewide trails overview.*
- Forest Recreation Plan – June 1995 – *Provides for non-motorized forest recreation*

- ORV Plan – 1979-. *2004 plan update and trail inventory underway.*

- Snowmobile Plan – *Annual updates VIA grant sponsor application; proposal for statewide program plan under review for 2005 implementation.*

- Assessment of Recreation and Trails – July 1999 – *Provides program overview and projected needs to support public recreation demands.*

#### **Grant Programs and Annual Request for Recreation and Trail Project Applications**

- ORV and the ORV Advisory Board
- Snowmobile Program and the SAC
- Trailways and the Adv Committee
- RIF/RTP Trail Grants and Stakeholders/Division Chiefs/Resource Deputy
- MNRTF/ Development and Acquisition/Division Chief/ Resource Deputy